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PATENT

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Refaat S. Fanous

Application No.: 10/616,707

Filing Date: July 10, 2003 For: Self-Retaining Retractor Group No.: 3732

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

### **STATUS INQUIRY**

- 1. More than twelve months have passed since the filing of this application. No communication has been received from the Patent and Trademark Office indicating action on this application.
- 2. Kindly advise the undersigned of the present status of this application, by checking the appropriate box on the next page. A stamped return-addressed envelope is provided.

## CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10\*

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<sup>\*</sup> Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

Date: January 10, 2005

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# STATUS INQUIRY REPLY

APPLICATION NO. 10/616,707 IS CURRENTLY

[ ] ASSIGNED TO GROUP \_\_\_\_\_\_ AND AWAITS:

[ ] ACTION BY THE EXAMINER.

[ ] APPLICANT'S RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED